WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

10

- 1. A system for providing payroll services via a masked third-party processor, comprising the steps of:
- from the customer to the payroll provider via a first means of data transmission;
 - b) transmitting the customer payroll data from the payroll provider to a third-party payroll processor via a second means of data transmission;
 - c) processing the customer payroll data by the third-party processor;
 - d) transmitting the processed payroll information from the third-party processor to the payroll provider; and
- e) enabling communication of the processed payroll information from the payroll provider to the customer via a third means of data transmission,

wherein the third-party processor and the customer communicate with and are associated through the payroll provider.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein first means of data transmission is a facsimile data transmission.

- 3. The system of Claim 1, wherein said first means of data transmission is a digital voice data transmission.
- 4. The system of Claim 1, wherein said first means of data transmission is electronic file transmission via a global networking system.
- 5. The system of Claim 1, wherein said second means of data transmission is electronic file transmission via a global networking system.
 - 6. The system of Claim 1, wherein said third means of data transmission is facsimile data transmission.
- 15 7. The system of Claim 1, wherein said customer payroll data is transferred to a common server and wherein the third-party processor retrieves said customer payroll data from said server.
- 20 8. The system of Claim 7, wherein said customer payroll data retrieved from a common directory of said server is recognized and verified via third-party applications.

- 9. The system of Claim 8, wherein said recognized and verified customer payroll data is retransmitted to a data directory of said server.
- 5 10. The system of Claim 9, wherein the third party payroll processor accesses said data directory and utilizes said data to yield said processed payroll information.
- 11. The system of Claim 10, wherein said processed payroll information is transmitted to an account directory of said server.
- 12. The system of Claim 11, wherein said account directory of said server comprises checks file, reports file and transactions file.
- 13. The system of Claim 11, wherein said account directory is accessed by said payroll provider for retrieval, review and distribution of said processed payroll information to the payroll customer.

- 14. The system of Claim 12, wherein said checks file, said reports file and said transactions file enable generation of printed reports.
- 15. The system of Claim 1, wherein said first, second and third means of data transmission are global networking system transmissions sent utilizing Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol to shield the customer from the third-party payroll processor.

10

20

- 16. The system of Claim 1, wherein said system if implemented via a software application installed on a computer of said payroll provider.
- 15 17. A method of providing payroll processing services, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a. installing a software application on a computer of a non-payroll processing entity, said software application configurable to receive payroll processing request transmissions from a customer;
 - b. forwarding said payroll processing request transmissions to a common server accessible by a payroll processing entity via a global networking system;

- c. processing said payroll processing request transmissions into useable payroll data to yield a processed payroll file;
- d. transmitting said processed payroll file to said5 server; and
 - e. permitting said non-payroll processing provider to retrieve said processed payroll file and selectively distribute said processed payroll file to the customer from whom said payroll processing request transmissions originated.

10

- 18. A software application for facilitating the provision of payroll processing services, said software application comprising:
- means for receiving payroll processing request transmissions from a customer;

means for transmitting said payroll processing request transmissions from a non-payroll processing entity to a payroll processing entity to yield a processed payroll file;

means for retrieving said processed payroll file; means for managing said processed payroll file; and

means for distributing said processed payroll file to the customer.

- 19. The software application of Claim 18, wherein said receiving means comprises a modem configurable to operate in a listen mode and receive said payroll processing request transmissions in the form of facsimile data transmissions.
- 10 20. The software application of Claim 18, wherein said transmitting means comprises a command button to access a main server through the global networking system for transmission of said payroll processing request transmissions to said payroll processing entity.

15

- 21. The software application of Claim 18, wherein said retrieving means comprises a download function configured to download said processed payroll file from said server.
- 20 22. The software application of Claim 18, wherein said managing means comprises a checks file data grid for managing check files retrieved from said processed payroll file.

- 23. The software application of Claim 18, wherein said managing means comprises a reports file data grid for managing report files retrieved from said processed payroll file.
- 24. The software application of Claim 18, wherein said distributing means comprises a checks select and print function for selectively printing at least a portion of said processed payroll file.
- 25. The software application of Claim 18, wherein said distributing means comprises a reports select and print function for selectively printing at least a portion of said physical copies of said processed payroll file.

5